



# INDEXA

Helping to Make DX Happen Since 1983

Winter 2013

[www.indexa.org](http://www.indexa.org)

Special Issue

A non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio,  
worldwide peace, and friendship

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## ***Rotuma (3D2R)—A visit to Paradise*** ***By Paul Ewing, N6PSE***

Most DXpeditions are visited by Murphy in the form of bad luck in one way or another. Some issues are minor and some are insurmountable. This is the story of the 3D2R DXpedition, a visit to Paradise and how despite many visits from Murphy, the team was able to persevere, move on, and work through the challenges.

This DXpedition was originally planned for a 2009 visit to Canton Island (T31). The team had been selected, all equipment was pur-

chased and stored away in Western Samoa and the next step was to announce our plans and our dates for T31. Suddenly, another team announced that they would be going to Canton Island just a few months before our planned visit.

We quickly reconsidered our options considering going to either Conway Reef or Rotuma. We decided to delay our trip for one season and we ultimately were able to get permission from the Island Council of Rotuma to carry out our DXpedition from the 32<sup>nd</sup> most wanted DXCC entity.

In order to prepare for our DXpedition, our Team Leader, Hrane Milosevic-YT1AD visited Fiji in May 2011. He was able to obtain the DXpedition license as 3D2R. He also arranged for a large shipping container full of equipment to be shipped from Apia, Samoa to Suva, Fiji. This container was slated to arrive the week be-

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**inside...** ***3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef***  
***End of an Era—INDEXA Secretary/Treasurer William L. Jennings to Step Down***

## 3D2R—A visit to Paradise (con'd)

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fore the DXpedition team would arrive in Suva. Pacific Freight, Inc. confirmed the container would arrive in July, well before our arrival. "Murphy" made his first appearance in our DXpedition as we would learn only two days before our arrival in Fiji that our container was delayed by ten days due to damage to the ship it was being carried on. This meant that our gear would arrive in Fiji after the team arrived in Rotuma!

Each of the team members was contacted and each was assigned various items to bring to replace the gear that was in the container. We even arranged for the delivery of new antennas to the team members at the Los Angeles airport as they were about to fly to Fiji!

We agreed that we would meet at the Los Angeles airport as planned and assess our options. From that point, it appeared that the possibility of having a successful DXpedition was remote. We posed a "go-no go" decision, and most of the team members wanted to press on.



**All gear was transported as personal luggage of each team member—no containers this trip!**

We then flew to Fiji as planned. Once in Fiji, we broke up into procurement teams. Hrane went shopping all over the island and spent over \$20,000 of his own money to buy tents, tables, chairs, antenna masts, and generators. Hrane and David-K3LP had rented two vans and we split into two teams for the three hour drive from Nadi to Suva. Murphy would visit us again when one half of the team was involved in a traffic accident while driving to Suva. Fortunately, everyone was okay. We arrived in Suva later that night and continued preparing our equipment and loading our vessel for the voyage to Rotuma.



**Our vessel—The Sere Ni Wai**

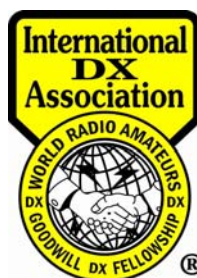
Fortunately, Hrane had selected a superb vessel—the Sere Ni Wai—to take us to Rotuma. The team and the boat's crew loaded all of the equipment on board and on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 9PM we started our voyage to Rotuma from Suva.

The seas were rough and instead of 36 hrs, it took 48 hrs to arrive in Rotuma. We set up two vertical antennas aboard our vessel and many of us operated as 3D2R/MM while enroute to Rotuma. Propagation was excellent and we made many great contacts during the two day voyage. Murphy would make another visit as one of our amps blew due the boat's faulty wiring (ground loop) while we were operating maritime mobile. Fortunately some of the team members were well versed in repairing ACOM amps and they were able to make a repair in a mat-

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The *INDEXA Newsletter* is a quarterly publication of the International DX Association.

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**Editor & Publisher**

John Scott, K8YC; 16212 Walcot Lane  
Cornelius, NC 28031 USA  
jascott@mi-connection.com

**Distribution & Circulation**

Bill Jennings, W4UNP; P. O. Box 123  
Catawba, SC 29704 USA  
w4unp@comporium.net

Send change-of-address information and membership applications to Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Jennings, W4UNP.

Address general correspondence to President Gary Dixon, K4MQG, at  
gdixon@comporium.net.

## 3D2R—A visit to Paradise (con'd)

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ter of hours. With only three amps, we just could not afford to lose one!

In order to maximize our time on Rotuma, the team assembled the various antennas while at sea so that they could be immediately set up on Rotuma upon our arrival.

We arrived at Rotuma during the night and had to anchor off of the island to wait for daybreak. At first sunlight, we docked in a beautiful lagoon at Rotuma. We were met by a welcoming party consisting of members of the Island Council including Mr. Rigamoto the Island Council Chief, the High School Principal, Mr. Perry Gabriel, and one of the island's police officials. We were given a briefing about what we could and could not do while on Rotuma. Their main concern was that we not import any fruit from Rotuma back to Fiji as Fiji was dealing with a fruit fly infestation on the island.

We noticed several small buildings on a jetty where we had docked. There was a small shack, a larger garage and a restroom. We asked if we could make use of the small shack or the garage for our DXpedition. We were very pleased when we were told that we could. This would save us many hours of effort as we could forego setting up the tents that we had purchased. We carried all of our gear from the ship and placed it on the jetty. Fortunately, we had pre-assembled all of our antennas during the voyage and it was a very simple matter to hand them ashore and quickly perform final assembly.



**This small building proved to be an ideal shack for our effort.**

Within a matter of hours, we had two tri-band Yagis for 10-15-20 meters set up on 25 foot masts on the jetty. Later we would add a delta loop for 12 meters and a vertical wire antenna for 17 meters. K3LP also crafted a four element wire Vee beam for 15 meters. K1LZ supervised the installation of the four square antennas for 40 and 80 meters as K3LP and crew installed the inverted L antenna for 160 meters.

We operated with five ICOM IC-7000 radios and three ACOM amplifiers. We had six logging laptops with Win-Test. Our operation was powered by one large generator maintained on the boat. Soon, we were on the air. The propagation on the higher bands, primarily 10 and 12 meters was amazing. Signals from North/South America and Japan were incredibly strong. We knew that one of our biggest challenges would be to work Europe, where the need for Rotuma contacts was most important. We were very surprised at how well we could work Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Our location was surrounded by salt-water on all sides and the jetty would prove to be an ideal location for our operation.

Soon, we were making nearly 10,000 contacts per day from 160 meters to six meters, including 60 meters (5 MHz). We had a pretty good indication that the bands would be this good while we operated maritime mobile on the way to Rotuma. We made 3,000 maritime mobile contacts while en-route

I'll never forget the sound that I heard in my headset as I was operating on ten meters SSB. It sounded like an alien space ship was landing! As I looked across the shack, we all looked up and asked "what is that noise". Within a few moments we noticed a large grey naval ship approaching our dock and tying up just behind our vessel. This ship was the one and only ship of the Fiji Navy. For several hours we had to endure a high level of noise from the ship until they shut their radar and navigation systems down. We sure were glad when they shut down and the noise went away. The Fiji Navy ship was a former US Navy vessel that had been donated to Fiji after the Vietnam War. Soon we would be visiting the navy crew and we were invited to come aboard. Many of us de-

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## 3D2R—A visit to Paradise (con'd)

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lighted in taking aim with the .50 caliber gun mounted on the bow.



**The arrival of the Fiji Navy was announced on our radios by their electronic surveillance gear .**

During our rest periods many of us went for long walks on the beach or enjoyed swimming in the beautiful warm waters of Rotuma. Some of us even went snorkeling on the various reefs and went Scuba diving with the ship's crew

### About Rotuma:

Rotuma is a Fijian dependency with a population of 2000 "Rotumans". Rotuma is 646 kilometers north of Fiji. There are seven villages on the island with one central government village with a police station, post office and a small store. There are several small schools and one high school on Rotuma. Ro-



**This was our "swimming hole".**

tuma has beautiful beaches, lagoons and dense jungles with only a few mountains. There are seven independent districts on the island that are represented by the Island Council. The ancestry of the Rotumans comes from the Solomon and Micronesia Islands.

### Life in Rotuma:

Life in Rotuma is very simple. Families live in small clusters of handmade houses along a single dirt road that encircles the island. Each village has a small church and cemetery. There are few jobs in Rotuma and most income is derived from gathering and burning coconut shells that are sold to a bio-fuel company that picks them up several times a year. Four of the seven districts have an elementary school. Each village has a generator for power, which is only provided a few hours each evening. Internet access is only available at the main village Post Office. There are only a few small trucks and motorcycles on Rotuma. There are no gas stations, restaurants or hotels, and there is a strong desire among the Rotumans to keep it that way.



**A view of the main village.**

### Introducing Amateur Radio to Rotuma:

During the voyage to Rotuma, Hrane-YT1AD shared with the team his desire to introduce amateur radio to the Rotumans. He asked for a team of volunteers to work with him during their rest time to expose the younger people of Rotuma to Amateur Radio and to ultimately train them in making contacts. Hrane wanted to donate some of our equipment so that an amateur station might be operational well after we were gone. After our arrival Hrane shared his desire with the Island Chief and the Principal of the Rotuma High School. He was invited to bring a

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## 3D2R—A visit to Paradise (con'd)

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team of trainers to the school and begin the introduction of amateur radio. The Principal set up an assembly of all 200 students and allowed Hrane and David-K3LP to give a presentation on amateur radio.



**Students listened intently as Hrane and Dave explained amateur radio.**

Soon, a group of 24 students and four teachers was assembled to go through daily amateur radio classroom training. The training started with a black-board demonstration of the various components required to operate an amateur radio station.

In the following days, the kids practiced making QSOs with small VHF portable radios. They really got excited and picked up most aspects of amateur radio very quickly.



**First the “chalk talk” to learn the basics. (Above) After the book learning comes some practical experience! (See top of next column.)**



On our last days of our DXpedition, the teachers brought the students to our shack. They delighted in actually sitting down with Dave-K3LP and Hrane-YT1AD and making real QSOs with the DX Community on 20 meters SSB. Each student and each teacher made QSOs and gave their name. Some were nervous, but they all enjoyed the activity and marveled at how easy it was to speak to someone thousands of miles away via amateur radio.

Later that night, the entire DXpedition team and the Sere Ni Wai crew were invited to a special event at the Rotuma High School. A large banquet had been prepared in our honor and was hosted by the Island Council Chief and the High School Principal. Tables were set up outside with flaming torches illuminating the night. An incredible feast of pork, chicken and seafood was prepared in our honor. The Islanders prepared a traditional Kava root drink in a very elaborate ritual for us to watch. We then each took turns drinking the Kava. Wow! That drink is powerful is all I can say. Each guest was given a beautiful flower lei by the women present at the banquet.



**A sumptuous feast offered by people of modest means reflected well on Rotuman hospitality.**



## 3D2R—A visit to Paradise (con'd)

We then enjoyed a large feast in our honor, complete with live music and dancing. What an enjoyable evening. Hrane-YT1AD then announced that he had pre-arranged for the Fijian Communications Department to issue the Rotuma High School the Club Radio Callsign of 3D2RI and that we would be donating to them, one HF radio, power supply, logging laptop and a new Cushcraft A3S antenna, mast and coax cable. The Rotumans were very excited!

The Island Council Chief and the High School Principal gave speeches and thanked us most eloquently for the donations and activation of the amateur radio club station.

### Murphy strikes again:

Old Murphy would just not leave us alone. One evening, one of our team members became seriously ill. We asked the Fiji Navy vessel crew if they had a medic and within minutes their medic was on board our vessel and treating our team member. The medic was very concerned and they made a call to the village hospital and soon the village ambulance arrived. Our team member spent the night in the village hospital and was released back to us the next day. All he could talk about was how attractive his nurse was. I guess he was feeling better!

### Time to say goodbye!

Murphy would strike again one last time on our second to last day of operation. We had planned to operate through October 7<sup>th</sup> with a goal to make 60,000 QSOs. Our ship's captain informed us that he had been contacted by the ship's owner and told to return to Suva one day earlier due to a conflict in the scheduling of their next charter. Hrane then began to negotiate with the ship's owner and a compromise was made that we would return twelve hours earlier instead of one complete day earlier. Still, we fell just 600 QSOs short of our goal. That night, as we were beginning to take down our equipment, a large group of Rotumans appeared at the dock to say goodbye. They brought their musical instruments and serenaded us as we took down our antennas. As we completed our tasks, in keeping with the Rotuman traditions, each of us was given beautiful flower lei. We all took pictures with the Chairman; Council of Rotuma: Tarterani Rigamoto and Mr. Perry Gabriel, the Rotuma High School Principal and shook hands and said goodbye.



**We were somewhat overwhelmed by the warm farewell given us by the Rotumans on our final night.**

We then started our two day voyage back to Suva. We all know that we have visited a very special place known as Rotuma. The Rotumans are as warm, sincere and as generous as any people that you would ever find. In return, they asked for absolutely nothing from us. Rotuma is a very special place. We are delighted in the fact that 3D2RI has been active most evenings in the weeks since we have departed. We are very glad that they have embraced amateur radio and are keeping the island on the air.

The 3D2R team would like to thank INDEXA and many other club and personal donors for helping us make this DXpedition possible. We would also like to thank Mr. Tevita Rokobaro (3D2TR)—Ministry of Communications (Retired) and Mr. Tevita Navila—A/Manager Technical Regulatory, Telecommunications Authority of Fiji for all of the assistance that they gave us. We are grateful to the crew of the Sere Ni Wai as well as to all donors and sponsors of the 3D2R DXpedition.

The 19 members of 3D2R are now planning for another exciting DXpedition for 2012.

Thank you,

*The 3D2R Team*

Note: A few more images from 3D2R are on the next page.

A few more images from the 3D2R effort. . .



An extended voyage of 48 hours gave us adequate time to preassemble antennas.



In full operating mode, we produced over 10,000 QSOs per day.



Hrane (YT1AD) shows the fine points of microphone usage to the future hams of Rotuma!

## Wear The INDEXA Colors



Front of Shirt



Back of Shirt

Several years ago INDEXA stopped supplying T-Shirts with our Logo, but we occasionally still get requests. INDEXA is now partnering with Glenn Rollins, N3IYR, a shirt supplier to provide both golf shirts and T-Shirts with the INDEXA logo on them along with your call letters on the sleeve. The shirts are only available in two shades of yellow. For ordering information and to view the shirts follow the link:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=140897931351>

This link is also shown on the INDEXA web page under the "Links" tab on the home page. Orders must be placed directly with Glenn Rollins' site and NOT through INDEXA.





# INDEXA

Helping to Make DX Happen Since 1983

## Second Front Page

### ***3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef*** ***Story & Photos by David Flack, AH6HY***

From September 26 – October 3, 2012, a group of 19 operators from seven different DXCC entities put Conway Reef on the air with the callsign 3D2C, making 71,693 total QSOs in just over a week on the island. Hrane YT1AD and Paul N6PSE were the chief organizers of this gargantuan effort; I was lucky enough to be one of the operators.

One of the strengths I have always associated with Paul & Hrane's DXpeditions is the mix of experienced and new hams that they fuse together as one coherent team. Let's face it, when every other editorial in amateur radio magazines says the hobby is doomed if we don't get more people involved, these two men are not just talking, they're doing.

My first contact with Paul was in 2010 when he was calling for volunteers to head to Iraq to be part of the YI9PSE team. I had no idea who he was and had little previous group DXpedition experience at the time, but his outreach seemed genuine enough and before long I was warmly invited to join his effort. Bonds were made and new friendships formed, and a year later we were passing out contacts from the newly-independent Republic of South Sudan.

The year 2012 offered the tantalizing prospect of spending some time on a remote South Pacific reef. In all of Hrane's travels—and as the world's ham radio population knows, he has traveled *a lot*—he insists that Conway Reef is "the most beautiful island in the world." It had been almost 11 years since his last visit, and he was clearly excited about going again. With a recommendation like that, I just had to see this purported magical place for myself.

3D2C would be my third DXpedition with Hrane and Paul, and by now I already felt like a veteran. Once

again they had cobbled together a group of diverse backgrounds, from very experienced operators including Craig K9CT, who still had his sea legs after having just returned from Swains Island, to three new individuals who had never been on a DXpedition before. Alan K6SRZ filled the important team doctor slot.

In late September our group converged from all over the world at the Novotel Lami Bay in Suva, Fiji's vibrant but rain-soaked capital. The Russian contingent arrived a few days early to check on the condition of the gear before the bulk of the team landed. In hindsight it was a brilliant idea to send an advance team because it turned out that when the shipping container was opened, two of our generators had so much corrosion that they were no longer operable. The scramble to find replacements before we set sail was on.

Our transportation between Suva and Conway Reef was the Island Dancer II (aka Sere Ni Wai, the "Song of the Sea"), a converted 100-foot long scuba diving live-aboard vessel docked next to our hotel. It is the very same boat we used to go to Rotuma the year before. For many of us it was our first island/tent/generator DXpedition, and we were all excited at the prospect of setting out to sea.

Not taking any chances with seasickness, nearly all of us stuck scopolamine patches behind our ears as our pre-departure team meeting got underway in the lobby of the Novotel. I also took the extra precaution of doping up on the anti-nausea promethazine medication, which had the intended effect of making me drowsy and letting me sleep during most of the

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## 3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef (con'd)



En route to Conway, all of the gear is checked to make sure it is in perfect operating condition. Here, N6NKT, K9JM, and YT3W get things ready.

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following two days as we skipped across ocean swells on our journey to the southwest.

After nearly two days on the open ocean, land was finally sighted. Our ship anchored in 50 feet of water just outside Conway's fringing reef, and we relied on the ship's zodiac to ferry material and operators to and from the island. Even at high tide the zodiac would just barely miss skimming across the top of the massive coral heads, and great care had to be taken to avoid damage to the natural environment as well as to the boat itself. Watching the crew successfully plot a safe zigzagging course to land through a gauntlet of boulders and coral was truly a sight to behold and gave me new respect for the talents of these seamen (see below). It took ten trips in all to get all of the gear and operators to the island so that camp construction could begin.



RZ3FW and UA4HOX assemble a yagi under the watchful eye of a nesting masked booby.



Three diesel generators are set up on the beach (left), while the first of four yagis is raised by UA4HOX, RZ3FW, 3D2TR, and WD5COV. The 3D2C operating tent is to the right.



The 3D2C sleeping tent, with eight cots stacked side by side barracks style inside. Alan AD6E was the only operator smart enough to bring his own accommodations to the island, a small pup tent set up next door

## 3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef (con'd)



**We set branches around this nesting site because it was out in the open and we wanted to make sure nobody would inadvertently step on this bird's eggs when she was out fishing.**

True to form with my past experiences with them, Paul and Hrane had assembled a team of people from nearly every continent. All too often we see rude comments on packet clusters and online forums about DXpedition teams being essentially from one geographic area, seemingly more interested in working their friends back home while ignoring the rest of the world. That certainly was not the case here. We had team members from North America, South America, Europe, and Oceania. No JA ops this time, but the path between Japan and Conway is essentially an easy northwest/southeast line, so it wasn't a grievous oversight. Besides, Asia had a secret ally in me, the only team member to have previously lived in the region for a number of years. I made sure Asia was never neglected and personally turned the antennas towards the continent on numerous occasions. Nearly every area of the world had an advocate on site, and we made sure our operating efforts were split evenly and fairly to maximize chances for faraway regions with limited odds. We were especially proud of our efforts to focus on the difficult paths to Europe and, much to our happy surprise, ended up logging more contacts with that continent than any other.

Ironically, my fondest pileup memories concerned none of the above continents. I was pleased to have an unexpected strong but short opening directly over Antarctica to southern Africa—certainly a challenging path if there ever was one—and made the rest of the world stand by as I put a string of ZS stations in the log. I was determined to work the

Africa pile down until I could hear no more and kept at it until propagation faded out. When I made one last call for South Africa, a shockingly loud signal responded by saying, "How about someone who is originally from South Africa?" Anything to get in the log, I smiled. I recognized the accent immediately even though he was thousands of miles from home, worked him for the sheer humor of it all, then let the rest of the world get back in on the fray.

We had six station positions set up for simultaneous operation and more than enough operators on hand to keep them manned day and night as long as propagation allowed. The sleeping quarters could fit up to eight at a time; others who needed sleep were ferried back to the *Island Dancer II* each night to crash aboard the ship before being transported back to the island the next morning with breakfast to let the night shift guys get some well-earned rest.



**WD5COV, N6PSE, AD6E, and K9CT get the ball rolling**

During our stay on the island we subsisted on just two meals a day, which is not to say we suffered. We had no choice but to work around the tide schedule because food and other supplies could only be brought to us during the two brief high-tide windows each day. The ship's crew created succulent culinary delights with the freshest seafood imaginable, and there was always plenty to go around. No one went hungry. Coolers were restocked with a variety of beverages each morning to make sure the scourge of dehydration would be kept at bay.

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## 3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef (con'd)



**A Conway Reef treat—sashimi made from freshly-caught tuna and ceviche made from giant clams harvested at our doorstep.**

*(Continued from page 10)*

I am always fascinated by how adaptable people are, how they adjust to their living conditions no matter how small or unusual. We spent days on an island that is essentially the size of a couple football fields, yet we never ran out of things to do in our free time. The entire island could be circled in just a few minutes but always seemed to offer lots of diversions, and short walks could end up taking hours. By the end of our stay, most team members had amassed vast collections of amazing sea-shells. And when anyone needed a real change, the sea was always right there, just a few feet away, beckoning. In addition to the colorful coral, fish, and giant clams in abundance, the northern half of the reef is littered with wreckage from the illegal Chinese fishing boat *San Sheng No. 168*, (see below) whose massive fiberglass hull sits sideways in dramatic fashion atop the reef just a couple hundred feet offshore, practically begging for exploration.



**Massive corals sit just below the water level at high tide, making navigation to and from Conway Reef a dangerous prospect for all but the most experienced seamen.**

For birders, Conway Reef is a little slice of heaven as it sits in splendid isolation several hundred miles away from human impact, hosting colonies of three separate species of booby birds on its relatively tiny land area. They showed remarkably little fear of us. In fact, the name “booby” is thought to be derived from the Spanish word *bobo*, meaning “stupid,” a testament to seafaring history when these tame, clumsy birds were often the only thing that shipwrecked sailors could capture and eat.

Even in such a small biosphere, the division of resources among the island’s only natural inhabitants was fun to observe. Red-footed boobies built sturdy nests across the tops of the scrub brush; brown boobies laid eggs on the ground underneath where they were well hidden by the shade, while white masked boobies plopped down at the edges of the vegetation and even made nests out in the open on the beaches, completely exposed to the elements. Most of the birds showed no fear of humans, and indeed most seemed not to be bothered at all by the presence of our camp, in some cases literally just a couple feet away. We were the objects of great curiosity to the island’s bird population, no doubt a treat in their otherwise routine days of diving for fish and sitting on their eggs.

The only other life on land were the legions of hermit crabs and the resident tick population, which

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## 3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef (con'd)



**Red-footed booby takes a perch atop one of the 3D2C antennas to better watch over the camp**

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seemed to explode overnight with glee after our arrival. The longer we stayed, the more ticks found ways to penetrate our shelters; by the end of the trip we were constantly swatting them away from our legs and feet in the shack. It was always humorous to work people on the air who said they were jealous that we were in such a spectacular place; all the while we were looking down while we logged the Qs, always keeping alert in case something started crawling up our legs. If only the people working us could have seen us. . . .



**Hermit crabs were everywhere. Maybe only the ticks outnumbered the crabs.**



**The bane of our existence on the island, ticks of various species and sizes. This unlucky bugger was caught crawling across the operating table just seconds before I sent it from this world to the next**

Before we knew it, it was time to pack up and head home. The weather had gotten noticeably worse the longer we stayed. Our first few days of relentless sun and blue skies were gradually traded for periods of gray clouds, dark skies, and drizzle as the week progressed. Knowing that the weather was worsening and that we would be sailing against the wind and current on the way back, the captain ordered us to start dismantling camp earlier than we had planned. Still, with close to 72,000 QSOs in the log at that point, we had already exceeded our wildest hopes and felt no guilt as we began the process of tearing down. The pileup was worked literally to the end, as Paul & Hrane kept passing out QSOs even in the open air—squinting at display screens now covered with glare—as the operating tent was literally being dismantled around them. (See below)

*(Continued on page 13)*





## 3D2C DXpedition to Conway Reef (con'd)

(Continued from page 12)

As soon as we were all safely back on board Island Dancer II, the ship's engines roared to life and we began the 2-day trek back to Fiji proper. As Conway Reef receded on the horizon behind us, we vowed to reconvene at this exact same spot in ten years time. It will be interesting to see if that really happens, and if so, how many of the original team members will be up for the task. My bet is that just about all of us would love to go back.

The boat ride back to Suva was much rougher than the ride down, with more pronounced pitching and heaving and some scarily-loud sounds that on occa-

sion that made it seem like our ship was going to split in half on the high seas. But our experienced crew brought us back safely as we knew they would, and once again we were thankful that the boat's home was a dock literally just steps away from the Novotel's inviting lobby. We staggered off the ship and directly into our rooms for a warm shower and well-deserved rest in nice, comfortable (and stationary!) beds.

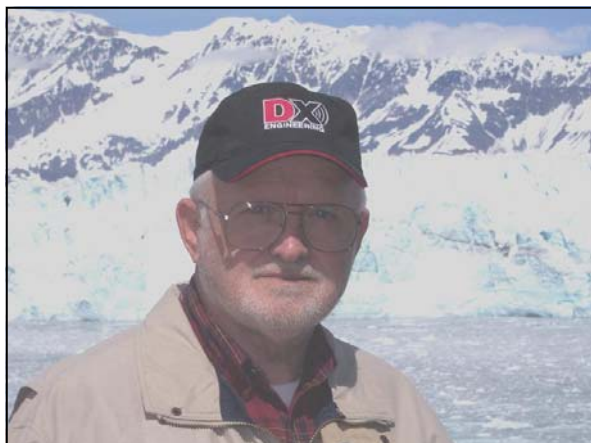
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The 3D2C Team



The 3D2C team wishes to thank INDEXA and all of our corporate, club, and individual sponsors for helping make this DXpedition a success. Without all of you this DXpedition would not have been possible, and we are eternally grateful for the support.

## Longtime INDEXA Secretary/Treasurer Bill Jennings (W4UNP) to Step Down



*Hello fellow DXers and INDEXA Members—*

After 30 years of impeccable service to INDEXA, our Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Bill Jennings, W4UNP, is looking to retire but not until a willing and qualified replacement has been identified.

Since the early days of 1983 Bill has been the only INDEXA Treasurer. There were three other secretaries from 1983-1990, then Bill assumed both positions. "**William L. Jennings**" has been the name you associate INDEXA with when receiving our Newsletters, Special Bulletins, Voting ballots, Membership Information and almost everything transmitted from INDEXA.

Bill has also been very instrumental in designing and managing the INDEXA web site since the early

1990s. What an incredible amount of time and service he has volunteered to the organization.

There have been various Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Directors over the past 30 years, but Bill has been the "**one and only**" INDEXA Secretary-Treasurer for the past 23 years. He has provided years of guidance, leadership, credibility and excellent input to all the officers and directors. Bill has been the adhesive between the officers over the many years.

Bill has been a personal friend for 40 years in both our past professional lives in the Telecommunications business and a vital part of our DXing hobby.

At the same time that we are announcing Bill's pending retirement we are also seeking a replacement volunteer for the INDEXA Secretary-Treasurer's job. If there is a serious candidate that wishes to apply for the job, please drop an e-mail resume to Bill at [w4unp@comporium.net](mailto:w4unp@comporium.net) with a copy to me, [gdixon@comporium.net](mailto:gdixon@comporium.net). Bill would then send you a description of the tasks he performs for INDEXA.

All applicants will be acknowledged and, after further review, potential volunteer candidates will be contacted for a more in-depth interview.

Serious candidates please!

Regards,  
Gary Dixon, K4MQG  
INDEXA President

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